

A NEW RETRACTOR TO BE USED IN SUPRAPUBIC CYSTOTOMY.

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HAVING experienced much difficulty after a suprapubic opening in obtaining a good view of the floor of the bladder by means of the ordinary retractors, Dr. William Fisher and I had made, to facilitate this exposure, a new one, a cut of which is herewith given.

Description of the instrument: Length of the handle *a, j*, 10.5 cm.; length of the whole shaft *a, b*, 20 cm.; width of blade *e, f*, 2 cm.; length of straight vertical piece, *b, c*, 4.5 cm.; length of whole vertical piece, including curve *b, g*, 9.5 cm.; radius of curve *h*, 3.3 cm.; distance from lower end of straight vertical piece to tip of curve *c, d*, 5 cm.; distance from tip of curve to perpendicular drop from straight vertical *d, g*, 2.5 cm.; the lower end of the curve is cut off so as to set back and in this way gives equal retraction without obscuring the view.

The size of the instrument herein described I have found well adapted for average individuals. For very fat abdomens the retracting blade should be made deeper; that is, the straight vertical piece longer.

This instrument has proved very satisfactory and much superior to the ordinary retractors. It not only gives a most excellent view, but by its peculiar shape it raises the floor of the bladder and makes it more accessible to the operator. Three are usually necessary—one on either side and one in the upper angle of the wound.

